

Former JSC employee earns volunteer award

Former JSC employee Ernesto Schonfeld has been chosen to receive the Houston's Mayor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. The award will be presented to Schonfeld by JSC Houston Mayor Bob Lanier on Sept. 12. Four Houston hospitals nominated Schonfeld for the more than 17,000 hours he has given in the past 20 years to Texas Children's, St. Luke's, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and the Hospice at the Texas Medical Center.

"Ernesto Schonfeld is a truly exceptional volunteer, a treasure to patients and staff at not one, but four medical center institutions," said the nomination application. "Days, evenings and weekends find Ernesto interacting with patients at the four medical center institutions he calls his volunteer home. His 'can-do' attitude is a special gift to health care professionals and patients." Schonfeld began his career with JSC in 1968 as a nuclear chemist in the Space and Life Sciences Directorate and was one of the first

chemists to analyze Apollo 11 moon rocks. In 1986 he transferred to the Medical Division where he worked until he retired in 1994. During his career with JSC, Schonfeld spent his spare time volunteering at Houston hospitals as a certified medical translator, guide and friends to patients. Two secretaries earn top excellence honors Two secretaries recently earned the Marilyn J. Bocking Award for Secretarial Excellence. Yaranet Gonzales of the Mission Operations Directorate Business management Office received acco-

lades for her organization skills and ability to prioritize and manage a heavy workload. Her ability to handle a variety of responsibilities with a "can do" attitude makes her an invaluable part of the efficient operations of the office. She has taken on several responsibilities not usually handled by secretaries with efficiency, enthusiasm and professionalism. Susan Staley of the Laboratories Office at White Sands Test Facility was cited for her contributions to the



Schonfeld



Gonzales



Staley

ISO 9000 certification. She developed a system to meet document requirements for certification which was adopted by the entire facility and was an important factor during the auditing process. She also was cited for her ability to answer inquiries for the more than a dozen different disciplines handled in the Laboratory Office.

Workshop to benefit process in teams, projects

The Systems Engineering and Analysis Technical Committee of NASA is sponsoring a workshop, "21st Century Facts, Better Systems, Fewer Resources," to be held Sept. 26 at Langley Research Center. The workshop is designed to expose all NASA employees and contractors to the systems engineering process, and to show how the use of this process makes projects and teams better able to achieve their scientific, cost and schedule goals. Jim Ulrich, vice president of engineering, Saturn Automotive Corp., will be the guest speaker for the event. Two panels—one dealing with the current state and application of systems engineering and analysis, and the second with the future of the practice—will be featured. Exhibits will be presented by vendors who provide systems engineering and analysis tools or consulting services; the vendor exhibits will have representation from all disciplines involved in the systems engineering process. Participation in the workshop is open to all NASA civil servants and contractors. Registration for the workshop is requested and required by Sept. 19 for attendees who do not have a NASA badge. Electronic registration is available through the Workshop Home Page at URL: <http://ixeab9.larc.nasa.gov/seac/wkshp/prereg.html> The latest workshop information is maintained on the Workshop Home Page at: <http://ixeab9.larc.nasa.gov/seac/wkshp/> For more information call Milam Walters at 804-864-3014 or Jill Marlowe at 804-864-7027.



JSC Photo by Mark Sowa

MARS VIEW—The Minister of State for Science and Technology of Japan and chairman of Space Activities Commission, his Excellency Hidenao Nakagawa, checks out a Mars meteorite during a visit to JSC.

Without new decal, you won't get on site

After Aug. 31, employees will no longer have access to JSC unless their vehicles sport the new vehicle decals. Security has been working its way around the center throughout the month of August in an effort to make it easier for permanently badged civil service and contractor employees to make the switch to the new yellow tag. Employees may request a maximum of three decals by presenting a completed JSC Form 1572, Vehicle Registration Record. These forms are available at the badge offices in Bldgs. 30, 110, the reception desk in Bldg. 1 and contractor security offices. Completing the JSC Form 1572 in advance will expedite the issuance of new decals. A valid per-

manent NASA or JSC badge and driver's license will be required to obtain new decals. Vehicle information required for registration includes year, make, model, color, license plate number and state in which vehicle is registered. New decals are available at Bldg. 110 from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Thursday and from 7:30 a.m.-noon on Friday. The current vehicle decals do not have to be returned when new decals are issued, but they must be scraped off and destroyed. After Sept. 1, employees will no longer be able to show a badge to gain entry into JSC and will need to go to Bldg. 110 to obtain a vehicle decal or temporary pass. For more information, call x32112.

Four JSC workers finish professional development

Four JSC employees recently completed a 12-month assignment geared to enhance their perspective of NASA as part of the Professional Development Program. "Twelve months ago my class departed on a voyage of discovery," said Vincent Johnson of Center Operations. "It was a voyage to discover more about ourselves and our agency. It is now time for us to go and create the future." Johnson, along with Bret Drake of Space and Life Sciences, Gerald LeBeau of Engineering and Alex Sanders of Mission Operations, spent their time at different NASA locations learning about the agency and its operations. Johnson and Drake spent their 12 months at NASA Headquarters, LeBeau at Langley Research Center and Sanders split his time between Kennedy Space Center and Headquarters. The Professional Development Program was designed to provide the opportunity for individuals to prepare themselves better for future positions at NASA. Some individuals choose to develop managerial competencies while others improve technical skills. The program is designed

to meet participant and organizational objectives. NASA centers gain a larger cadre of individuals who are prepared to assume roles of greater responsibility, gain a different perspective on current projects, foster greater flexibility and strengthen NASA's cohesion. Participants gain new experience in their career fields, develop skills for future supervisory positions and obtain a better understanding of a host organization's functions and operations. "My experience can be summarized as educational, rewarding and enjoyable," Johnson said. "Educational by having access to the functional operations of Headquarters and a broad overview as to how it interfaces with individual centers. Rewarding from the perspective that I could be thrust into a totally different work environment with different responsibilities and execute those responsibilities with the same level of effectiveness and professionalism. Enjoyable from experiencing a new living and social environment and developing new friendships that will continue long past the end of the one year assignment." For details on the program, call Erica Vandersand, x31999.



Drake



Johnson



LeBeau



Sanders

NASA, FAA sponsor general aviation design competition

NASA and the FAA are sponsoring a General Aviation Design Competition for the 1996-97 academic year that is open to undergraduate and/or graduate students at U.S. aeronautical and engineering universities. In its third year, the competition engages students in a national effort to revitalize the U.S. general aviation sector and seeks to educate students on the importance of general aviation for business and personal use

as well as its economic importance. The national goals for rebuilding U.S. general aviation offer open ended design challenges which can provide the basis for a quality educational experience, organizers said. Student designs are judged by a panel of experts from industry, government and academia. All teams receive written evaluations of their design packages. It is anticipated that at least \$11,500 will be given in cash awards, including a \$500 special award from

the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Air Safety Foundation for the design with the greatest potential for retrofit in currently operating aircraft. General aviation includes all flight operations except military services and commercial airlines. The 212,000 general aviation aircraft in service in the U. S. account for 62 percent of all U.S. flight hours, while providing 540,000 jobs and contributing \$40 billion to the U.S. economy. For the purposes of

the competition, general aviation aircraft are defined as: fixed-wing, single-engine, single pilot, propeller-driven aircraft for two-six passengers. The performance specifications are 150 - 300 knots with an 800 -1,000 mile range. The competition is coordinated on behalf of NASA and the FAA by the Virginia Space Grant Consortium. Guidelines are available by phone at 757/865-0726, at vsgrc.pen.k12.va.us or can be accessed at URL: <http://www.vsgc.odu.edu/>

Lawrence, Wolf get Mir flights

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Korzun and Kaleri will spend six months on Mir, mostly with Blaha, while Andre-Deshays is scheduled to return to Earth on Sept. 2 with Onufrienko and Usachev. When Blaha replaces Lucid, he will continue the Phase 1 scientific investigations begun by Lucid, complete the first on-orbit handover to support a permanent U.S. human presence in space. Both Lucid and Blaha's time aboard Mir will be roughly equal to the time to be spent by crews aboard the International Space Station in the future. To continue America's presence on the Russian station, two new American astronauts, Wendy Lawrence and David Wolf, were named to the list of future Mir crew members this week.

Lawrence is scheduled to begin a four month stay on Mir in September 1997, launching aboard Atlantis as part of the STS-86 crew, and becoming a member of the Mir 24 and 25 crews. Wolf is scheduled to replace Lawrence in early 1998 aboard Discovery during STS-89. During his stay, he will be a member of both the Mir 25 and 26 crews. Now in her 22nd week aboard Mir, Lucid can still say that she would agree to undergo the experience all over again. "I have enjoyed the entire experience I have had here on Mir, and that is both from a personal standpoint and from a scientific standpoint," Lucid said. "And yes, if I had known it was going to be for six months, I still would have asked to be able to come," Lucid said.

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Planting to begin in March

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feedlot with a 20- by- 60-foot barn, a working pen, and watering troughs. The cattle will have access to the 35-acre pasture for grazing. Also being considered are four 60- by 180-foot aquaculture ponds that will be used to raise both salt-water and freshwater species of fish and shrimp. The plastic-lined ponds will range from 18 inches to about 3 feet in depth and will have computerized water quality monitoring systems with aerators to maintain proper oxygen levels. Water fill and drainage lines also are included. A planned vegetable garden and fruit orchard plots will have drip irrigation systems. A small lab, housed in a metal building is planned for processing fruits and

vegetables as well as aquatic species. An adjacent greenhouse will be used for raising seed and hydroponics plant gardening. Dr. John E. Wilson, superintendent of the Clear Creek Independent School District, said the Longhorn Project will provide an excellent opportunity for students to use the unique facilities and expertise of the space center and its employees. "It will be a tremendous opportunity for students and industry to work closely together to further education in the field of agriculture while utilizing the state-of-the-art facility at NASA," he said. The project is scheduled for startup in March 1997, with some fruit trees and vegetables possibly being planted as early as the first month of 1997.